

# INTEROFFICE MEMO



DATE: May 12, 2003

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FROM: **RANDY SCOTT**, Division Chief  
Land Use Services Department, Advance Planning Division

TO: **NARESH VARMA**, Division Chief  
Department of Public Works, Environmental Management Division

File: Howard Street/Yard 1/W.O.#H13598

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SUBJECT: YARD 1 - CEQA CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO  
HOWARD STREET, ONTARIO/MONTCLAIR AREA

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I have reviewed, for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance, the San Bernardino County Department of Public Works' proposal to improve approximately 420 feet of Howard Street, in the unincorporated area the County in the vicinity of Ontario/Montclair. The specific road segment to be improved is Howard Street, from 610 feet west of Benson to 190 feet west of Benson, on the north side only, and is designated on the attached vicinity maps.

Improvements shall include widening the existing road, to Master Plan local collector width of twenty-two (22) feet from center line, and constructing curb and gutter and six-(6)foot wide sidewalk.

The estimated start date for this project is October 1, 2003, and it is estimated to take approximately four (4) weeks to complete.

The Department of Public Works' Ecologist has determined (April 16, 2003) that it is unlikely that any rare, threatened, or endangered species occupy the area of the proposed improvements. During her review, she noticed that the area surrounding this section of Howard Street is highly disturbed and therefore saw no indication of a negative impact to species of special protected status.

It is my opinion that the proposed work qualifies for a Categorical Class 1 Exemption under Section 15301 (c) of the CEQA Guidelines that allows maintenance, repair, or minor alteration of existing facilities with negligible expansion of the existing use.

RS:KR:kr/HowardStreetCatEx

cc: Patrick Egle, Advance Planning, LUS  
Brendon P. Biggs, Transportation Design Division  
Kelly A. Rozich, Environmental Management Division